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MR. KERENS ON IRRIGATION.

WE DESIRE at the outset to express admiration for the gentleman we are about to name. As a citizen, a business man and a friend of Utah he is without reproach. As a politician, it is not as a citizen that we desire to discuss him. We want to handle him only as a citizen it must be with the softest of gloves, for he has only soft gloves coming to him.

The gentleman we are about to name is a Missouri Republican. From time immemorial Missouri Republicans and Kentucky Republicans have been entitled to sit in the front row of any Republican gathering. They are the most radical of their kind. Does the sun shine brightly? Your Missouri or Kentucky Republican straightway finds that the Republican party is responsible for it; that is, unless the sunshine is too warm, and then they curse the Democrats for inflicting Hades weather on the country.

Do we have crops of the "bumper" variety? Any Kentucky or Missouri Republican will deduce arguments that prove beyond the peradventure of a doubt that the Almighty has gone into active partnership with the so-called and misnamed Grand Old Party. With this introduction it should be entirely unnecessary to state that we are about to allude to R. C. Kerens of Missouri, an honored guest at the Commercial club banquet Wednesday night, director and one of the promoters of the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake railroad, and save for his ingrowing Republicanism, a mighty fine man.

Mr. Kerens, during the course of some remarks at the banquet aforesaid, gave utterance to the assertion that the Republican party was responsible for the passage of the national irrigation act. Surely he has not read the record. As a matter of fact, Mr. Kerens, if the Republicans in congress had had their way about it, national irrigation would have been as dead today as a last year's bird's nest.

A recapitulation of the vote shows that more Democrats than Republicans voted for that bill. It shows that if the Democrats had not, to a man, rallied to the support of the measure, it would have been ingloriously defeated. These are facts which can easily be verified by the records. We would be willing to concede almost anything our distinguished friend from Missouri wants us to concede, but we cannot refrain from entering a specific denial in this instance.

We'll give your party credit for the crops, Mr. Kerens; for the gentle rains in season and the sunshine; we'll take the blame for the floods and the droughts, but we will not concede you that irrigation act at any spot on the pike.

ARRIVED TOO LATE.

SOME DAYS AGO the dispatches contained a story of the return of a prodigal son. He had run away when a boy, and years had elapsed since he saw the old home. During all that time he made no effort to keep in touch with his family. Though fortune smiled on him far beyond his desert, though he knew his father and mother were in straitened circumstances when he ran away, he never so much as wrote a letter of inquiry.

From day to day, from month to month, he put off writing. If he had forgotten his parents his conduct might have been explained, but he didn't forget them. That fact is made apparent by his belated conclusion to look them up. So he went back home at last. His bank account was ample, his pockets were filled with money and he walked up the main street where he had once lived with his shoulders squared and his head high.

Finally he reached the house. It was empty. A neighbor told the returned wanderer that two corpses had been carried out of the home only a few days before. They were the bodies of his father and mother, and death was caused by starvation and neglect. We are told that the son's sorrow and despair when the result of his criminal thoughtlessness was made clear to him was most pitiful. He mourned as one without hope of comfort.

And well might he mourn. Almost as surely as though he had stabbed them he killed his father and his mother. An ancient method of punishing murderers was to fasten the bodies of their victims upon their shoulders and send them out to wander until the rotting corpses killed them. The Apostle Paul must have been thinking of this cruel form of punishment when he exclaimed: "Oh, woe unto man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"

That long extinct punishment will be the fate of the unfilial son in this story. The body of the death of his parents will be with him the remainder of his days. No earthly power can deliver him from it, and he will go down to his grave with his soul eaten with remorse. His punishment, bitter though it is, is just. One little letter from him would have saved his father and mother, but he never wrote it.

Eight here in Salt Lake are men, young and old, who are neglecting the parents who gave them being. They are not so culpable, perhaps, as the

man whose life is now steeped in sorrow, but they are not without blame. They may not realize it now, but the time is coming when they will realize it unless they mend their ways.

MR. BRISTOW'S REPORT.

THE STATEMENT of Senator Platt of New York that the scandals in the postoffice department are a heritage from the last Democratic administration is not borne out by the findings of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, who has been in charge of the recent investigations. Broadly speaking, Mr. Bristow finds that the Tulloch charges were all well founded and that there has been a vast deal of "irregular work" in the department.

So many and so glaring are the "irregularities" that prison sentences are looming ahead of some of the gentlemen who have been discharged and who are about to be discharged from the service. There seems to have been an utter absence of proper business methods in the conduct of the department for several years before the retirement of former Postmaster General Smith. Nor is Mr. Smith charged now with a single dishonest act.

His troubles have originated from his lax methods of doing business. Instead of looking closely after the work of his subordinates he let them do pretty much as they pleased. The results were but natural. New "precedents" were established, men and women were put on the payrolls and drew salaries without performing any service therefor and without making any pretense at performing a service. Favored bidders were given big contracts for supplies, and the only thought behind the administration of the department was apparently that every man must get his share of the loot.

The former postmaster general was asked yesterday if he had any statement to make in regard to the report of Mr. Bristow. "There is no occasion for me to reply to Mr. Bristow," he replied, "and I will not." Mr. Smith cannot dismiss the scandal in this cavalier manner. There is occasion now for him to speak and defend himself if he can. Failing to receive an explanation from the man who, above all other men, should be best qualified to explain, the public will almost be justified in believing that Mr. Smith was cognizant of the irregularities in his office, even though he did not profit by them.

And the investigation will not end with the report of Mr. Bristow. The nature of that paper makes further investigations imperative. It is evident that the matter has not yet been sifted to the bottom.

RUSSELL SAGE'S DILEMMA.

YOUR UNCLE RUSSELL SAGE is in a sad predicament and he won't get much sympathy, either. According to the dispatches Mr. Sage postponed the little formality of "swearing off" the bulk of his tax assessment until the time for the performance of that pleasant duty had expired. Then he wrote a letter of protest to the authorities, but it is said that nothing can be done for him.

Mr. Sage's trifling lapse of memory will cost him several thousand dollars. Really, it is too bad to expect a man as poor as Sage to pay taxes just as the ordinary man pays them; that is, on everything the assessor can find to assess. With all the money Mr. Sage has lying in bank without interest it is an outrage to require him to walk up to the counter and pay the city the city's due.

Let us all join in hoping that Mr. Sage will yet find a way to dodge the collector. True, if he escapes his obligation it may be necessary to turn the screws a little tighter on some individual who owns only a home and a few sticks of furniture, but such men are entitled to no consideration.

A Frenchman has invented a lightning-proof garment. In view of the fact that about one person in a million is killed by lightning every year the demand for these garments should be tremendous. But after all the only thing that really scares most of us is the thunder.

Mr. Corbett says he will accept any wagers Mr. Fitzsimmons proposes to lay on the proposition that Jeffries will whip Mr. Corbett in their coming meeting in San Francisco. As both men are Thespians, it is entirely probable that they will use stage money in their wagers.

An Indiana court has decided that the fool chambermaid who refused to take up Booker T. Washington's bed and was discharged for it, is not entitled to damages. A very proper decision. Chambermaids should be color blind.

Russia says the new king of Serbia must punish the murderers who made it possible for him to be king. Isn't this a rather embarrassing position to put a brand new king into?

After his fierce speech against the feudists in Kentucky Prosecutor Byrd will doubtless find it necessary to flee as a bird to some locality where his life will be in less danger.

Even a casual glance at the Salt Lake morning papers of yesterday was sufficient to convince the wayfarer that there is something doing in the railroad line in these parts.

Two Kentuckians became involved in a dispute at a revival service the other day. Then, in order to save time the praise meeting was turned into a funeral ceremony.

Dr. T. C. Hilt refused to talk for publication to a reporter the other day. That's funny, but undoubtedly the doctor will make up for it somewhere else.

Now we are told that a woman is to be brought into the Machen case, which will give the cynics a chance to say, "Of course."

A New York janitor has gout in the nose. He must have been poking it into the dinners prepared for his tenants.

A good many Salt Lake men thought they were picking far runs out of their teeth yesterday—but the banquet was worth it.

SPARKS.

The Only Way.

The baseball fan was gloomy, his brow with care was lined. He muttered and he twisted and he swore. He fidgeted and grumbled and 'twas plain to see his mind. Was suffering from the burden that it bore. At last he sat no longer, but quickly to his feet. He sprang and on the floor he threw his coat. Then taking pen and paper again resumed his seat. Began to write and this is what he wrote:

"To managers and directors of local baseball clubs, I give you one and all. I take my pen and paper to send you these few lines."

To help you make more money from your game here.

I have given years of study to the thing which I write, and my motives are the best when I tell you

To help out your finances in this Utah base game here.

Some changes in the system now are due.

"It appears to be the custom of both our baseball teams to play on foreign ground."

The change that most is needed, to me, at least, it seems,

Is to turn the present system right around.

Have Salt Lake lose at Ogden and Ogden lose at Salt Lake.

Then people will be fighting to get in. They'll come to every game, you'll find, and you'll make more money.

If they only think the home team's sure to win.

"Men may talk of liking 'certain games, no more than I like to see my money, bet their clothes and wildly shout."

To see the home team win out by a mile.

So I write out this suggestion and give it to you free.

And in closing, this is all I have to say: Adopt the plan or leave it, but take this as the only way to make the business pay."

It was a Salt Lake little girl who made the following comment after attending church: "Oh, yes, it was very nice. But we got there so late we only saw three acts of it."

There may be a warning to people who believe the "fasting" treatment will cure everything, in the case of a man in Pennsylvania who died three days after ending a fast of forty days.

Laundries in Washington announcing a reduction in charges to the prices prevailing before the coal strike. Which may be taken to mean that much more dirty linen will be washed there than for some time past.

When you relinquish your ideals you let go of the best part of your life.

A man rode out in a racing machine. And made the old auto dance. Till something went wrong with the gasoline.

When he rode in an ambulance.

Salt Lake chauffeurs are talking of forming an automobile club. It has not been decided yet whether undertakers will be eligible for associate membership, but two doctors are identified with the movement.

If your board is paid for several weeks and you have money in your pockets and are working, you are not a vagrant, according to Judge Diehl. This is gratifying news to many of us who were not certain the town contained any people not vagrants under former constructions of the new vagrancy law.

Among other sufferers from fire and flood this year may be mentioned the Sanpete county coyotes, which are being exterminated by means of water and fire placed in their dens.

Whether the clothing left in that main street store by the tramps who robbed the place will be of value in proving the size of the men is open to question. It must first be shown that the clothes fitted the men, and the odds are that the garments were originally purchased for someone else. If you don't believe it, take a good look at the next bum you meet.

Mr. Peabody says he is much obliged to Salt Lake for taking action that will result in separating Mr. Peabody from \$25,000. The pleasure is mutual.

Some enterprising promoter should now secure the furniture of the royal apartments where the Serbian murders were committed and place the same on exhibition at St. Louis next year. It appears altogether likely that some of the murderers would be glad to come along and tell visitors just how the killings were consummated.

Those Kansas cowboys appear to be still in the employ of the Deweys, judging from their steadfast refusal to give testimony.

Friends of the persecuted Jews in Russia will rejoice to learn that one of the most notorious persecutors of the Jews has at last got it in the neck. Their only regret probably is that instead of ten or fifteen minutes of rope application, he merely received a slight knife thrust.

George Hanson of Ogden is the one who told this, quoting a Scotch friend of his: "Y' see, thur's a greet scandel in th' kirk. 'Twass Saturday last. A doot, an' thur was a game they ca' beeshall. 'Twass Sandy Mockfeersun at th' bot. An' hum they ca' th' peetcher thur th' ba' t' hum they ca' th' keetcher. An' Sandy Mockfeersun, he swut at th' ba', but he nair tithed ut, an' th' keetcher he thur th' ba' t' th' peetcher an' th' keetcher he thur th' ba' t' th' keetcher, an' Sandy Mockfeersun he swut ut awa' t' th' field an' he rin t' th' feerst bawg an' th' mon on th' feerst bawg he rin t' th' suckend bawg, an' th' mon on th' suckend bawg he rin t' th' thurrd bawg, but Alester Mockmeelun he wass on th' thurrd bawg an' he din rin an' y' see, thur wass twa min out, an' 'twass th' ninth uninn, an' thur wass greet sweerin' in th' graun' stan' an' cryin' out, an' thur's a greet scandel in th' kirk, an' thur no fut t' hear th' ward o' Gode."

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SOCIETY.

Quite the prettiest reception that could be planned, with its numbers of fair maidens and its gracious matrons as well, was that given yesterday by Mrs. Goulstone Griffin. The home was filled with masses of roses, almost every room in the house showing lavish decorations of the June flower. The dining room alone was in another flower, the sego lily forming the entire decoration there. Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Griffin, assisted by Mrs. H. D. Styer and Mrs. E. W. Packard, received their guests in the parlor. Mrs. O. E. Cary was in charge of the dining room, where Mrs. Charles Wilkes and Mrs. George Westervelt poured coffee. Assisting in the dining room were the Misses Salisbury, Zane, Grath, Sherman, Laura Sherman, Althea Miller, Grace Jacobs and Emily and Eleanor Dooley. Punch was served in the hall by the Misses Kimmball, Katie Williams and Julie Miller.

About 300 ladies called during the afternoon, the hours being from 3 till 6.

A very beautiful luncheon was that given by Mrs. David Evans yesterday at her handsome home on the east drive. The guests numbered seventeen and they were seated at one long oval table, which was a perfect picture of June loveliness with its fragrant roses. A mirror on the center held a large bowl of cut glass, and from this arose an epergne of the same crystal hue, the whole being filled with roses of deep red. Loose rose leaves were scattered over the table, and tried in and out were sprays of maidenhair ferns. At each place by the guest card was a tiny cut glass vase, holding a single rose, the vase and the rose being used as favors. The guests of the affair were: Mrs. Ellen Elliott, Mrs. F. D. Bick-

ford, Mrs. M. B. Whitney, Mrs. A. P. Hirth, Mrs. D. C. McLaughlin, Mrs. Arthur Brown, Mrs. William H. King, Mrs. Ephraim Gowans, Mrs. William H. Dale, Mrs. Elmer B. Jones, Mrs. David Keith, Mrs. Thomas Marion-eaux, Mrs. George W. Snow, Mrs. Dinah, Mrs. Byron Cummings and Mrs. Lindsay Rogers.

Another pretty luncheon of yesterday was that given by Miss Anna McCormick in honor of Miss Edna Donnellan. The table decorations were pink sweet peas, a low mound of which formed a most artistic centerpiece. From this arose a high vase of silver, filled with the same flowers, and corsage bouquets of sweet peas were with each place card. The other guests were: Miss Olive Donnellan, Miss Salisbury, Miss Burke, Miss Dooley, Miss Sherman, Miss Laura Sherman, Mrs. A. H. S. Bird, Mrs. Walter Filer, Mrs. Babcock and Mrs. Louise Smedley Smith.

Friends in this city have received invitations from Mr. and Mrs. Albert Burch of Spokane for the marriage of their daughter, Sybil Aylesworth Stewart, to Mr. Robert Sterling, formerly of this city. Mr. Sterling is well known here, having been one of the charter members of the University club. The marriage will take place next Wednesday evening.

A very pleasant event was the reception given last evening in honor of Miss Florence Scholes and Mr. John S. Sears, which followed the marriage of the young people at noon. The ceremony was performed in the temple by A. O. Woodruff, an uncle of the bride, and from 8 till 11 o'clock a reception was held at the home. Receiving with the young people were Mrs. M. A. Sears, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Reebe, Miss F. oebe Scholes and Miss Mabel Snow. Miss Lucille Young served punch in the hall, and the bride was attended by three little girls as flower girls. Mrs. Joseph J. Daynes, Jr., was in charge of the dining room. The home was prettily decorated, the parlor being done in white and green. A canopy of the two

colors was formed from the bay window extending over the heads of the receiving party. The hall was in red and the dining room looked very pretty in pink roses. The bride wore a handsome gown of white French voile and carried bride's roses. Mr. and Mrs. Sears will be at home after July 1 at 716 Fourth street.

Miss Belle Dewey entertained last evening a merry party of friends at the lake in honor of her cousin, Mr. Stenhouse. A delicious luncheon was taken along and about twenty guests were entertained.

Mrs. Eugene Lewis has gone east for the summer and Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Channing have taken the Lewis home at 229 F-r-st street. Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Channing, sr., and their daughter, Miss Helen Channing, are visiting with their son and daughter and will spend the summer here.

Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Madsen left last evening for a trip through Yellowstone park. They will be absent about a month.

Mrs. T. G. Webber and Miss Webber gave a tea this afternoon.

The marriage of Miss Sarah B. Smith and Mr. August Anderson took place last night at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Smith, 564 East Sixth South street.

Mrs. J. N. Moore entertained at an informal afternoon party yesterday.

Mrs. Ephraim Gowans is in the city, the guest of Judge and Mrs. King.

Mrs. E. M. Miller will entertain at cards this afternoon for Mrs. McLaughlin.

Miss Althea Wheeler, who has spent the past winter in the east at college, has returned for the vacation.

Miss Leigh Block, who has been in Washington studying art for the past

year, is expected home during the week.

Mrs. Ira H. Lewis and her mother, Mrs. Smith, arrived in Plymouth, England, on June 5 and were leaving there for London immediately, where the party will remain for some time.

Captain and Mrs. E. A. Wedgwood will give an informal musicale tonight for Mr. Garner Stenhouse.

Mr. Rupert Dunford will be home shortly from West Point to spend the summer with his mother and sisters.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Miner announce the engagement of their daughter, Anna to Mr. G. Spencer Chambers of this city. The marriage will take place in July.

Mrs. W. H. Jones of 331 South Third East street will entertain the McKean post and auxiliary at cards this evening.

Included Himself.
(P. E. Leupp in April Century.)
When "Gabe" Bouck was representative from the Oshkosh district of Wisconsin a pension bill came before the house, to his great vexation of spirit, for, while his personal convictions were directly opposed to it, his political interests were strong enough to whip him into line. On the day the bill came up for final disposal a fellow member met Bouck in the space behind the last row of seats, walking back and forth and gesticulating excitedly, bringing his clenched fist down into the hollow of his left hand, to the accompaniment of epithets which would hardly look well in print.

"What's the trouble, Gabe?" inquired his friend. "Why all this excitement?"

"Trouble," snorted the irate lawmaker. "Trouble enough! That pension bill is up and all the cowardly nincompoops in the house are going to vote for it. It's sure to pass—sure to pass."

"But why don't you get the floor and speak against it—try to stop it," suggested the other.

"Try to stop it?" echoed Bouck. "Try to stop it? Why, I'm one of the cowardly nincompoops myself!"

ROUND-UP

A Wild Stampede

First a faint, fast beating patter of footies, increasing as the hours wore on, until finally the ground trembled and the low swelling, thunderous tones drowned all sound save the animated voices which arose above the mighty din—voices in eager discussion of the sale at one-half off price in women's dresses, skirts, waists, jackets, cloaks and everything in the cloak and suit department at Keith-O'Brien Company's.

All day the store was crowded.
Today will be the same.

EVERYTHING IN THE DEPARTMENT AT HALF PRICE!
All new goods. Magnificent assortments.

Price

Ready-to-Wear Garments!

CONSISTING OF
Ladies' Suits, Skirts, Jackets, Dresses and Waists.
No Exchanges, Approvals or C. O. D. Orders

ROUND-UP

Continuation of the great sale in Summer Wash Fabrics, linens, domestics, etc. Everything at half price in the department. Why pay twice as much elsewhere? Everybody is discussing this sale. All new goods—exceptional assortments. Come early. Crowds come later.

FINE LINEN SETS.

See our tremendous half-off inducements in cloth and napkins to match. Half off! See the magnificent displays in the windows. You will be amazed at the beautiful line and the immense assortments. Come down to the store and look around. The greatest surprises await you.

WASH DRESS FABRICS.

Dainty, airy, delightful summer wash fabrics for the summer girl and a profusion of desirable patterns for her mamma at—well, two dress patterns at the price of one ordinarily—that is what half off of regularly selling prices means. Come this morning and see the line. It is a line of choice selections—sufficient to excite the admiration of every pretty dresser in the city.

16-inch Crash	6 ¹ / ₄ c	18-inch Crash	6 ¹ / ₄ c
20-inch Crash	7 ¹ / ₄ c		

You never saw such prices! It is an opportunity of your life! All at half-off prices. Why pay twice as much?

IRISH HUCK.

18-inch, was 20c, now	10c	22-inch, was 23c, now	11 ¹ / ₂ c
20-inch, was 22c, now	11c	24-inch, was 25c, now	12 ¹ / ₂ c

This is half value. The sale is the biggest one in values for the money ever offered in Salt Lake.

FANCY HUCK TOWELS—Hemstitched and fringed, 75c for 37 ¹ / ₂ c.	HEMMED AND HEMSTITCHED HUCK TOWELS—60c for 30c; 50c for 25c.
HEMSTITCHED DAMASK—40c for 20c.	HEMMED HUCK—35c for 17 ¹ / ₂ c; 30c for 15c; 25c for 12 ¹ / ₂ c; 16c for 8c.
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Unbleached Crashes.

UNBLEACHED CRASHES—Used for roller and short towels. 18-inch, was 14c, is 6c; 20-inch, 20 inches wide, was 20c, is 10c.

UNBLEACHED RUSSIA CRASH—11c unbleached for 5¹/₂c; 20c unbleached for 10c.

18-inch, was 11c, is 5¹/₂c; 18-inch, was 12c, is 6c; 20-inch, 20 inches wide, was 20c, is 10c.

UNBLEACHED RUSSIA CRASH—11c unbleached for 5¹/₂c; 20c unbleached for 10c.

Bamberger,
The Man on Meighn Street.

Keith-O'Brien Co.